(54) Title: PLUG-IN MODULE FRAME AND MODULE THEREFORE
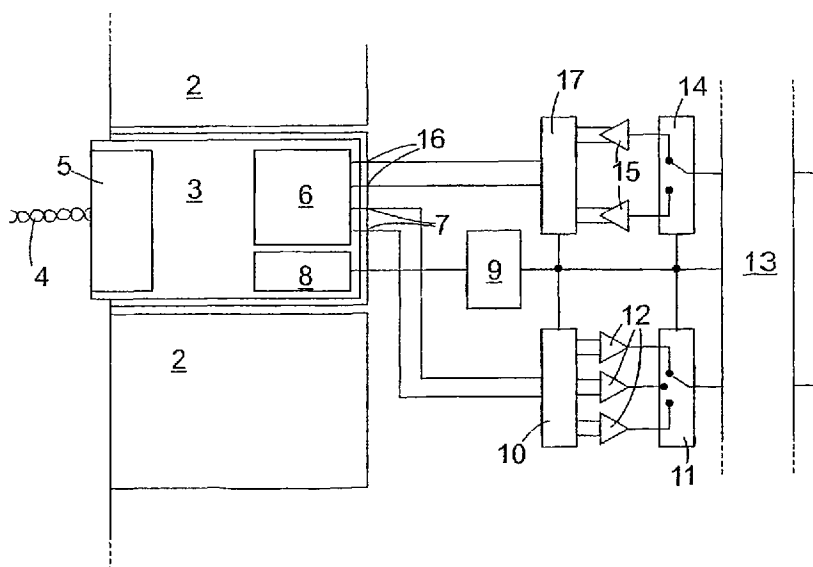
(57) Abstract: A plug-in module frame has sockets (2) with at least one signal contact (7, 16) each for passing an information signal between the plug-in module frame (1) and a plug-in module (3) mounted at one of the sockets (2). A protocol converter (9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 17) having first and second terminals communicates with the plug-in module (3) via its first terminal and signal contact (7, 16) ac-cording to a first protocol and via its second terminal according to a second protocol. Type detecting means (8) are provided for detecting a characteristic of a plug-in module (3) mounted in socket (2), which characteristic is unambiguously associated to a protocol supported by the plug-in module (3), and the protocol converter (9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 17) which is connected to the type detecting means and supports a plurality of first protocols is adapted to use at its first terminal a protocol encoded by the detected property of the plug-in module (3) at its first terminal.

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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.